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THE INVINCIBLE RED SONJA



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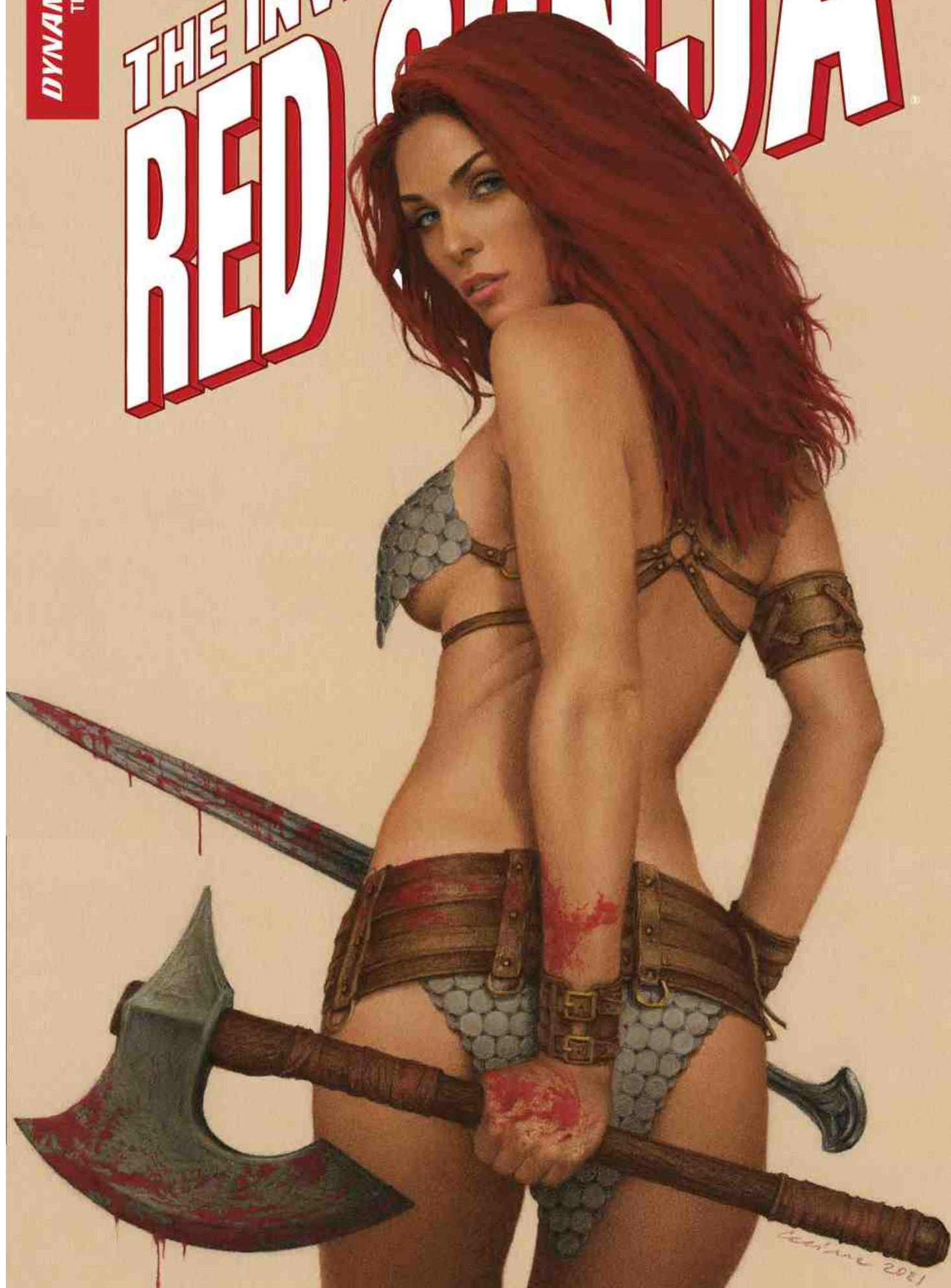


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THE INVINCIBLE RED SONJA

OF
COURSE
I'M
FREEZING,
YOU
STUPID
PEASANT.

I'M WEARING
A METAL BIKINI
IN A SNOW
COVERED
BATTLE
FIELD.



C%
DYNAMITE
9/10

07

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TEEN+

THE INVINCIBLE
RED SONJA



**JIMMY PALMIOTTI
& AMANDA CONNER**
WRITERS

MORITAT
ART

MATT CARTER
COLORS

DAVE SHARPE
LETTERS

**SPECIAL THANKS TO
CASEY SILVER**

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STAYING TRUE TO
ONE'S WORD, AND
OFFERING ONESELF
AS A SACRIFICE,
PLEASES ME.

I CARE NOT
WHAT PLEASES YOU,
SCATHACH.

MY DECISIONS
ARE *MINE ALONE*
TO MAKE.

INDEED.
WEAKER
SOULS WOULD
HAVE CHOSEN
A DIFFERENT
PATH.

BECAUSE OF
YOUR DECISIONS, BECAUSE
OF YOUR ACTIONS, YOU ARE
WELCOME HERE TO STAY,
FOR THE *BEST* OF
ETERNITY.

THE INVINCIBLE RED SONJA

JIMMY PALMIOTTI &
AMANDA CONNER: WRITERS
MORITAT: ART

SEVEN

MATT CARTER: COLORS
DAVE SHARPE: LETTERS
MATT IDELSON: EDITS



WHAT BATTLE
HAVE YOU FOR ME
NOW? **DRAGONS?**
THE **LIVING**
DEAD?



NO
BATTLE. NO
GAMES.

NO MORE
PAIN. NO MORE
SUFFERING.



IS THAT
SO?

HMMM, YOUR
VERY WORDS THEMSELVES
ARE A **DECEPTION**.



HOW CAN
YOU BE SO
CERTAIN,
SONJA?

I KNOW
WHAT YOU **WANT**.
MORE IMPORTANTLY,
I KNOW WHAT YOU
NEED. ALL THERE IS TO
DO IS **ACCEPT** ME,
AND I GUARANTEE YOU
PASSAGE TO A **DIVINE**
AND **GLORIOUS**
FUTURE.



IF YOU WERE
TRULY SCATHACH,
YOU WOULD **ALREADY**
KNOW MY ANSWER,
BUT ALAS, YOU
DO **NOT**.

PROVE ME
WRONG. TELL
ME WHAT I AM
THINKING.

WHY SAY
ALoud WHAT YOU
ALREADY **KNOW** AS
YOUR TRUTH?



YOU
CIRCLE BUT
DO NOT
STRIKE.

SCATHACH
WOULD **KNOW** MY
TRUTH, AND I WOULD
BY NOW BE
ELSEWHERE.



YOUR TRUTH
MATTERS **NOT** TO
ME, **INSIGNIFICANT**
WORM.

YOU CAN **ROT**
IN THE **EARTH** LIKE ALL
THOSE BEFORE YOU, FOR
ALL ETERNITY.



YOUR
FRUSTRATION
EXPOSES YOU WITH
EACH SECOND THAT
PASSES.

SUFFERING
HAS BEEN A **CONSTANT**
IN MY LIFE. BECAUSE OF
THAT, I HAVE LEARNED TO
SAVOR ITS TASTE.

SCATHACH
KNOWS THIS.



SCATHACH

UUUUHHRRRRKKK



YOU
ARE NOT
SHE.



MY **ENTIRE**
KINGDOM.

EVERYONE
I HAVE **EVER**
KNOWN.

IT HAS ALL
BEEN **TAKEN AWAY**
FROM ME...IN ONE
SINGLE NIGHT.

MY
HOME...

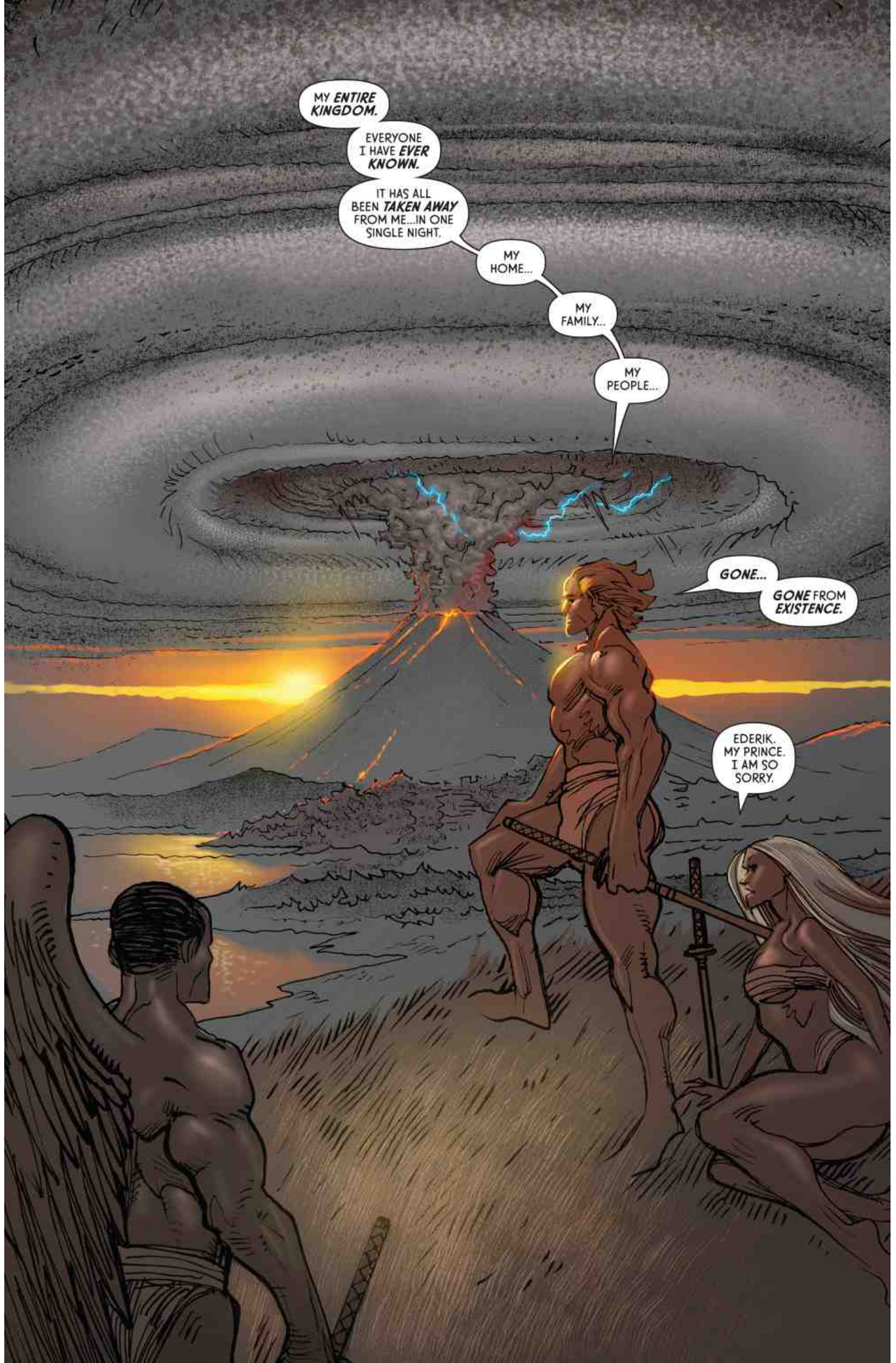
MY
FAMILY...

MY
PEOPLE...

GONE...

GONE FROM
EXISTENCE.

EDERIK.
MY PRINCE.
I AM SO
SORRY.





THE SUN HAS
RISEN, YET IT IS
STILL DARK AS
DUSK.

I WILL USE
WHAT LITTLE LIGHT
THERE IS, AND GO
BACK TO SEE IF
THERE ARE ANY
SURVIVORS.

TUMA,
I FEAR
YOUR SEARCH
WILL BE IN
VAIN.



INDEED. THERE IS **NO HOPE**
OUR SONJA WOULD STILL BE
ALIVE. YOU DID AS SHE
WISHED.

YOU CAN **SEE**
WITH YOUR **VERY**
EYES. NOTHING
LIVING COULD HAVE
SURVIVED.



WHAT KIND
OF FRIEND WOULD
I BE IF I DIDN'T AT
LEAST **TRY**?



WAIT
HERE TILL
I GET BACK.
I'LL NOT BE
LONG.

I WISH YOU
LUCK.

AS
DO I.



TELL ME, EDERIK...
WHERE WILL WE GO
FROM **HERE**? CAN WE
FIND TRANSPORT TO
RETURN TO MY
KINGDOM?

THE NEXT
CITY SOUTH IS
CAPELLIA.
WE'LL FIND SAFE
PASSAGE
THERE.

UNFORTUNATELY,
IT'S LOCATED MANY
DAYS AWAY.

AN AREA CALLED
THE **DARKLANDS**.
FROM WHAT I'VE
HEARD, IT EARNS
ITS NAME.

LET ME
GUESS...OVER
DANGEROUS
TERRAIN?



AH, OF
COURSE.

JUST
OUR LUCK.



THE FIRST THING I FEEL IS THE SEARING HEAT, AS I INHALE THE TOXIC GAS. IT SCORCHES MY THROAT ALL THE WAY DOWN TO MY LUNGS. IT BURNS SO THAT I CAN'T FIND THE OXYGEN TO SCREAM.

IN AN INSTANT, MY EYES BECOME DRIED HUSKS. MY SKIN BEGINS TO BLISTER FROM THE RADIANT HEAT, AND THEN THAT HEAT BORES INTO MY FLESH.

THE PAIN IS BLINDING AS I FEEL MY BODY BURST INTO FLAMES. THE METAL THAT PROTECTS ME BECOMES ONE WITH MY SKIN.



NOW IMAGINE ALL THIS, AS MY BODY FIGHTS ITS WAY BACK TO ITS FETTER.

YES, THE WIZARD'S SPELL STILL LIES WITHIN IN ME.



IT WILL NOT ALLOW ME TO PASS OUT, OR DIE. THE PAIN GROWS WORSE AND WORSE.

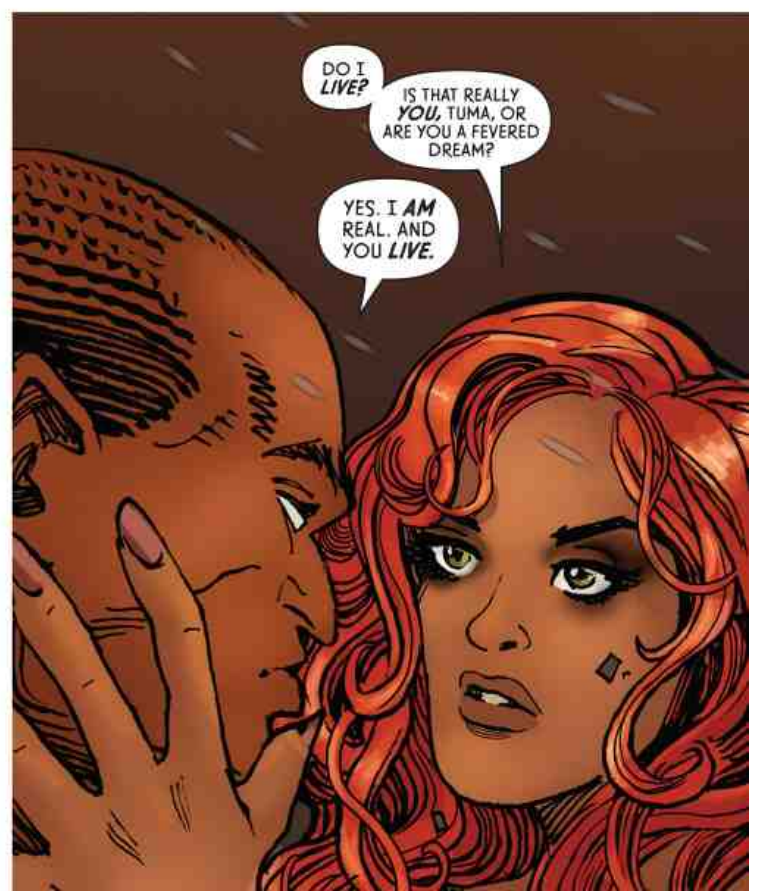
I RELIVE EVERY AGONY I'VE EVER HAD IN MY ENTIRE LIFETIME, ALL AT ONCE.

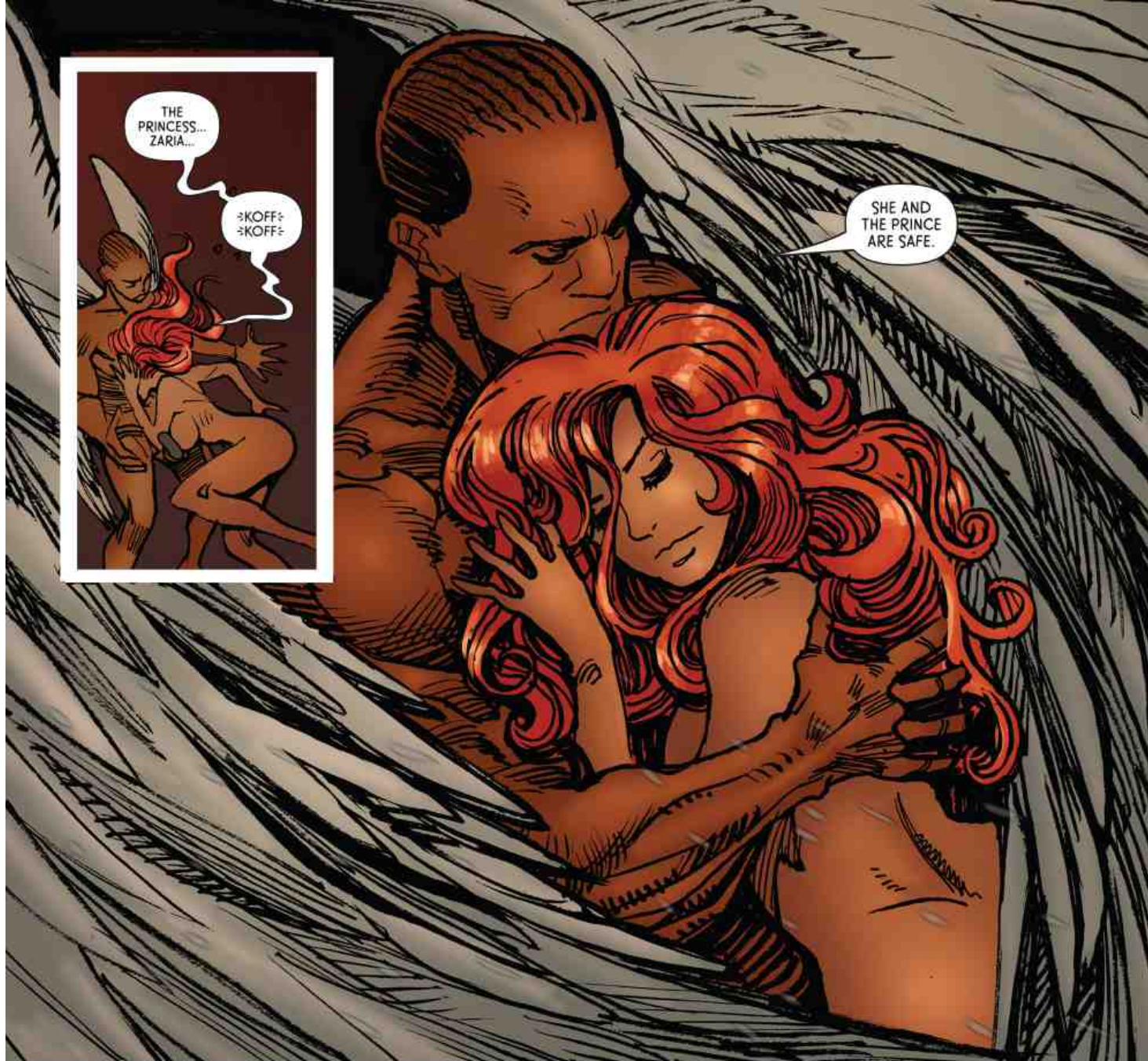


TILL MY MISERABLE FLESH WINS, AND THE HOT STONE AROUND ME STARTS TO COOL.











WHAT DELAYS TUMA **SO?** WE ALL KNOW NOT A **SINGLE BEING** COULD SURVIVE THAT BLAST.

AND YET, **HERE WE ARE.** THE KINGDOM IS VAST. IT IS HIS **NATURE** TO BE THOROUGH.

EDERIK. YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH HELL, AND I'VE BEEN AN INCONSIDERATE, SPOILED CHILD. I AM **ASHAMED** OF MYSELF. PLEASE **FORGIVE** ME.

NO NEED. WHAT I FEEL IS...**OVER-WHELMING.** TO LOSE MY FATHER, AND THEN MY MOTHER.



MY **MOTHER...**

TRY NOT TO JUDGE YOUR MOTHER **TOO HARSHLY.** WE ALL GRIEVE IN OUR OWN WAY.



ZARIA, I'M NOT A CHILD, BUT **THANK YOU** FOR YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS.

MY MOTHER WAS AN ADULT. RESPONSIBLE FOR HER CHOICES, **GOOD** OR **BAD.** HER INDISCRETIONS ARE **NOT** WHO SHE WAS. I DISTINGUISH THAT.



NONE OF IT **MATTERS** ANYMORE. MY PARENTS, LIKE THE KINGDOM OF ERKHARA ITSELF, ARE GONE FOREVER.

MY **LIFETIME** OF BEING GROOMED TO BECOME FUTURE KING...ALL A **WASTE** OF TIME.

EDERIK, THAT IS SIMPLY NOT TRUE. NOTHING HAS CHANGED. WE ARE SET TO BE MARRIED, AND **WILL** BE AS SOON AS WE ARE BACK IN MY KINGDOM OF BELANJ.

ALL WILL BE AS IT IS MEANT--



ZARIA! WE ARE BEING WATCHED.

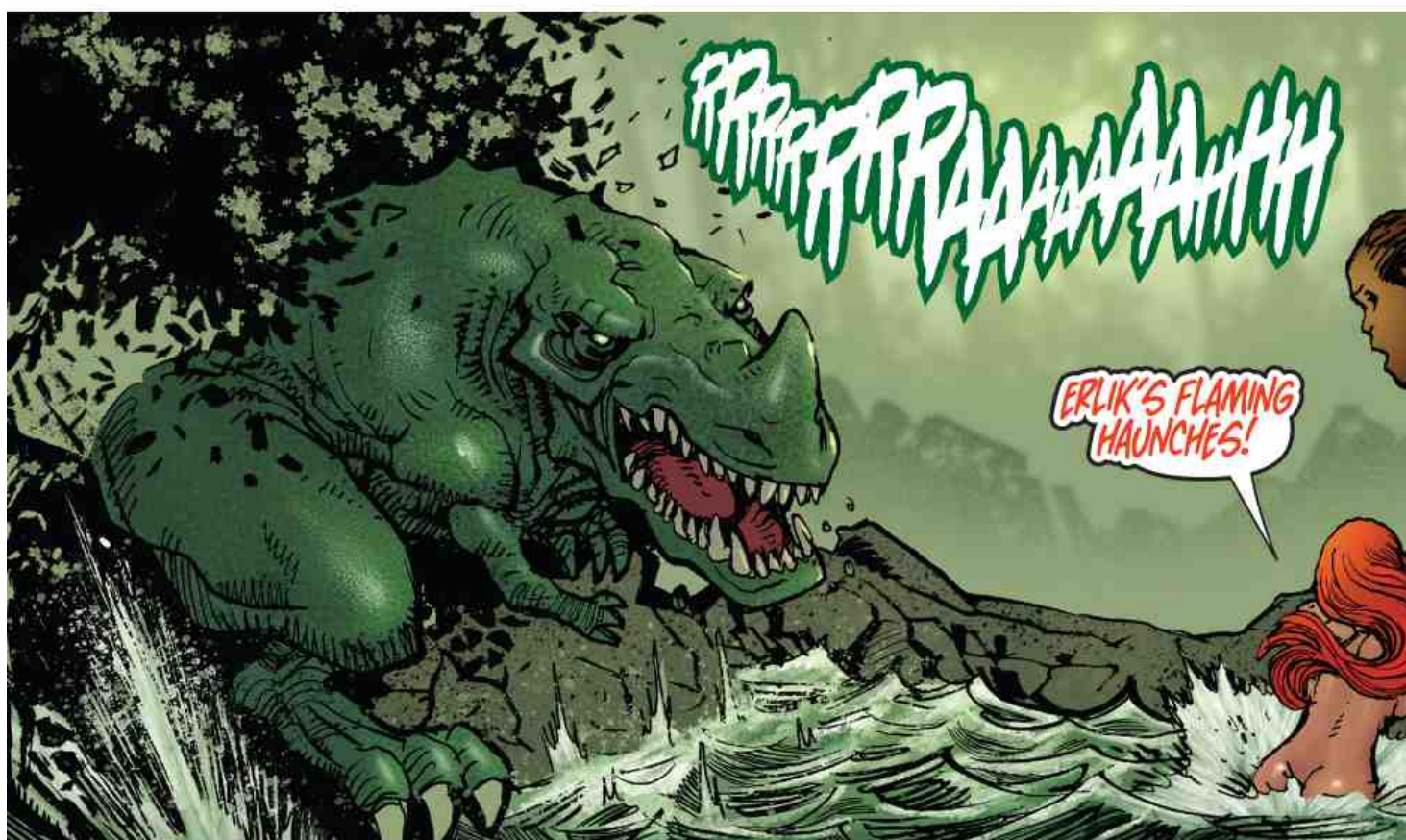


I **HEAR** THEM NOW. WE ARE SURROUNDED.



STAND **READY,** MY LOVE.

BY YOUR SIDE, ALWAYS.









WELL, BEAST...
YOU *TASTE* ONLY A TRIFLE
BETTER THAN YOUR BREATH
SMELLS. BUT THERE WAS A
HOLLOW IN MY BELLY, AND
FILL IT, YOU DID.



LET US HOPE
YOUR *SKIN* IS MORE
AGREEABLE THAN
YOUR *MEAT*.



WE
SHALL
SEE.



HEH. IT'S NO
DENARI BREECHES,
BUT IT'LL DO.

SONJA!

TUMA!
WHERE ARE
ZARIA AND
EDERIK?

WE HAVE
TROUBLE.



HOURS LATER...

WHO ARE THEY?



DARKLAND
PEOPLE.
SAVAGES.

THEIR KIND
WERE DRIVEN OUT
OF ERKHARA *MANY*
GENERATIONS
AGO.

AND THERE
GO ZARIA AND
EDERIK...*CAGED*
LIKE *RABID*
ANIMALS.

IF WE ATTACK
THEM NOW, WE ARE
OUTNUMBERED. IF THEY
MAKE IT BACK TO THEIR
CITY, IT SPELLS *CERTAIN*
DOOM FOR THE PRINCE
AND PRINCESS.

I'M IN NO
SHAPE FOR A SKIRMISH
RIGHT NOW. WE MUST
BE *CLEVER*.

WE
FOLLOW THEM
FROM A DISTANCE,
TILL NIGHT FALLS.
WE'LL SEE WHAT WE
ARE UP AGAINST
THEN.

HO...THEY'VE
STOPPED.





SNFF

DO YOU SNOOF THAT?

YAE.

SHALL I LOOSE UP THE SEEKERS?

PLEASE! LET US GO! I CAN REWARD ALL OF YOU HANDSOMELY!

SHUT YOUR LIE-HOLE AFORE I CUT OUT YOUR TONGUE AND EAT IT.



GO. GO FIND THOSE THAT ARE NOT US.

EXTRA PORTION FOR WHO FINDS THEM FIRST.



SNFF



THAT ONE IS COMING RIGHT AT US. HOW?

MAYHAP YOU SHOULD'VE TAKEN A BATH WHEN I DID.

GIVE ME MY SWORD, PLEASE.

NO. TAKE US TO THE TREE TOP, QUICKLY!





ALL WHO ARE
US! MAKE TARGETS
OF ANY THEY SCARE
FROM THAT
TREE!

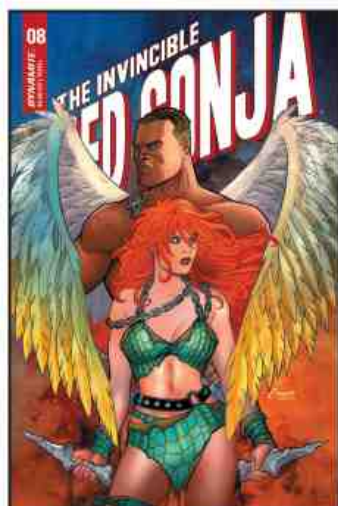


I DO NOT
BELIEVE WHAT MY
EYES SEE!

DAMN!

ERLIK
TRULY HAS
A DEPRAVED
SENSE OF
HUMOR.

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...



NEXT ISSUE

Sonja finds herself in the middle of a vast desert on the run with Princess Zaria and Prince Edward from an unstoppable enemy bent on destroying everything in its path.

PRIEST INTRODUCES HIS EXCITING INTERPRETATION OF DRACULINA THE OTHER DAUGHTER OF DRAKULON

Priest, you've been chronicling the tales of Vampirella for a couple years now, after kicking off our 50th anniversary celebration. Along the way you introduced a unique new version of the Draculina character, but later surprised fans with the original as well. Before we kick into things, can you touch on that and who this series will be focusing on?

The series is about the original. We have, in fact, been writing Draculina since our very first (and oddly confusing) short story in the Free Comic Book Day edition of Vampirella #0. Other than Stan The Rat, Draculina is the very first character you meet--albeit in her alternate reality form of the streetwise runaway preteen Katie.

Lots of fans were scratching their heads wondering about my obsession with this plump, freckled little tomboy (laughs). Katie is so very much Peppermint Patty from the Peanuts gang, I adore her so much. But only editor Matt Idelson and I knew why she was at the center of our Vampirella series--Katie is Draculina. she is an alternate version of Vampirella's sister. In many ways, our series has, from issue #0, been about Draculina.

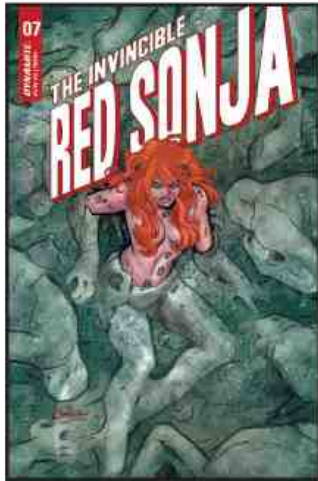
Obviously, readers can jump right into page one, panel one, issue one of Draculina. But for those fans who have been following your whole wider contributions to the Vampirella mythos, can they expect to see connections to other corners of the web?

Oh, sure. The demon Belial is now retired from, uh, demoning and living in suburban New Jersey like Tony Soprano. Zylaven, the leader of The Six (see Sacred Six) works at "River East"'s company, and Vampirella herself is bound to appear sooner or later.

Much of the story is being told by Katie to a police detective named Imogen, who is our keyhole character and proxy for the new reader. You really don't need to know any of the complex backstory of the demon Belial locking Lilith in a tower and forcing her to give birth to demons, or Lilith giving birth there to an apparently "normal" daughter--Draculina--which sent Belial into such a rage that he took the girl from Lilith and ultimately lost her in the time stream. Everything you need to know in order to read this series will be explained to Imogen and, by proxy, to the new reader, so dive in!

Artist Michael Sta. Maria is joining you for this title. Previously he was working away on the other side of Vampi continuity, as it were, with Tom Sniegoski's Vengeance of Vampirella. How have you been taking to his art now that you've stolen him away to your side (laughs)?

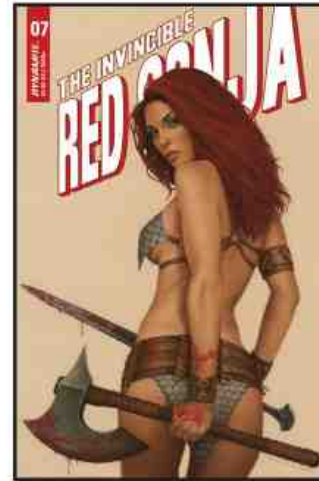
I always appreciated Michael's work on Vengeance and we're lucky to get him! His dynamic action shots of the infinitely more merciless Draculina are really impressive. He's a great storyteller, and I'm looking forward to see how he evolves in this new series.



Cover A
art by **AMANDA CONNER**
colors by **PAUL MOUNTS**



Cover B
art by **JOSEPH MICHAEL LINSNER**



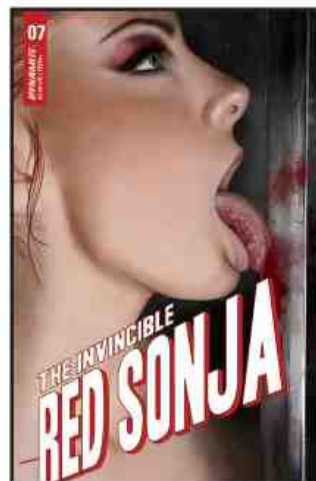
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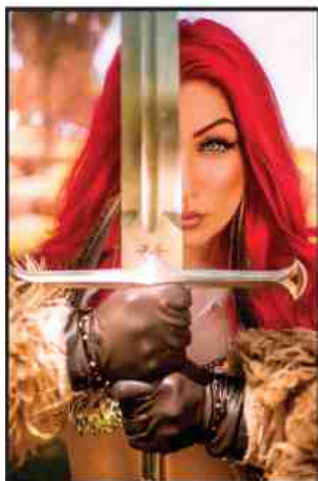
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model **RACHEL HOLLON**
instagram@facesbyrachie
photographer
DAVID TURNER
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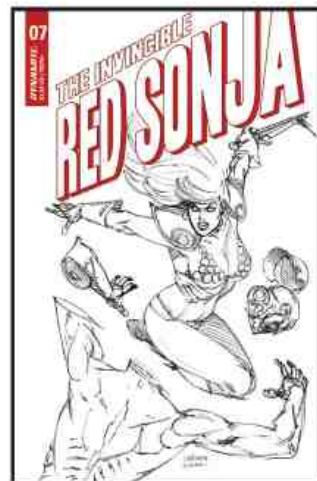
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Cover H
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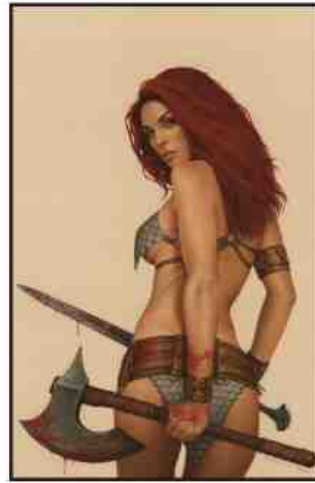
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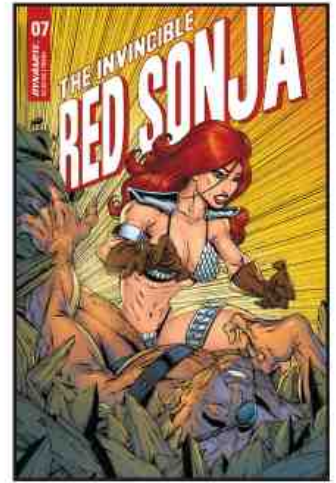
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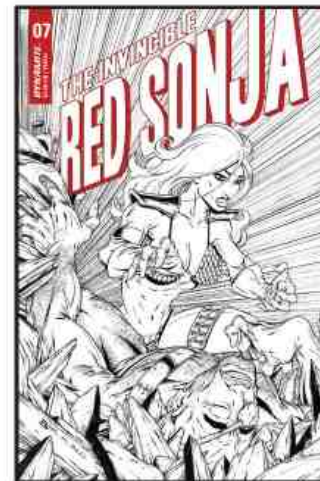
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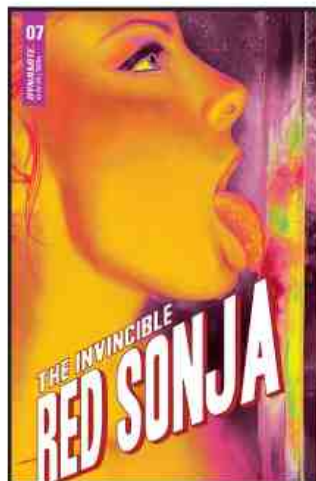
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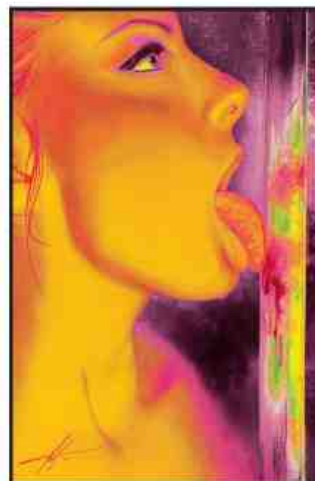
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